

of all Houston area students. The complete elimination of the Goals 2000 and Eisenhower Professional Development Programs will also prevent schools from incorporation innovative, locally developed teaching techniques into the classroom.

This bill also dramatically cuts Student Financing Aid Programs. Too many Americans are already struggling because of the high cost of higher education. As American workers face increased foreign competition, higher education is more necessary than ever before. Over 82 percent of undergraduates at Houston's Rice University, one of the premier universities in the United States, receive financial aid by cutting Perkins loans and eliminating State student incentive grants, we are sending a message to America's youth that higher education will be harder to afford. That is wrong.

This legislation also reflects the Republican leadership's disdain for American workers. It recklessly and foolishly cuts the Occupational Safety and Health Administration budget by 13 percent and the National Labor Relations Board by 20 percent.

The two agencies responsible for ensuring worker's safety and rights are singled out for dramatic and unnecessary cuts. The Republican leadership places unnecessary restrictions on both OSHA and the NLRB on how the perform their mission.

Finally, I would like to point out that members of this Congress once again have attempted to gut our Nation's Family Planning Program. Title X provides essential health care services for thousands of low-income women each year. Without family planning, American women would not have access to the safety medical care possible, and I am pleased that the Congress rejected any attempt to limit or eliminate this vital program.

In summary, I urge my colleagues to oppose this misguided legislation because of its dramatic effects on the America's working families. It does not meet the needs of millions of Americans who rely on funding for education, job training, workplace safety, and family planning, and should be rejected.

#### LET US EXTEND MFN FOR CHINA

HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 12, 1996*

Mr. FIELDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to endorse the extension of most-favored-nation trading status with China. I believe that only by doing so can the United States play a role in promoting democracy, individual freedom, and free market economics in China. Extending MFN for China is in the mutual interest of China and the United States.

Most favored nation [MFN] is merely a term used to indicate the standard or general tariff treatment the United States extends to virtually all countries in return for reciprocal tariff treatment for American exports.

Currently our fifth largest trading partner, China accounts for \$12 billion in annual American exports. Our farmers, industrial equipment producers, high technology firms, and others all export American goods to China. Last year, the United States sold China 10

percent of our wheat and corn, 40 percent of our fertilizer, \$270 million in heating and cooling equipment, \$330 million in industrial machinery, \$710 million in telecommunications equipment, and \$1.2 billion in civilian aircraft.

Manufacturing these goods has created over 200,000 high-skill and high-wage American jobs. In Texas alone, foreign trade has produced more than 45,000 such jobs. If we fail to extend MFN to China, the United States will lose the reciprocity that MFN status makes possible. This would increase tariffs paid by American firms selling their products in China from an average rate of 5 percent to an average rate of 50 percent, and in some cases 100 percent. As a result, American exports to China would be dramatically reduced, many of the 200,000 American jobs could be lost to overseas competitors, and imports from China—including footwear, toys, and apparel—would become more expensive for American consumers.

China's economy is expanding at an astounding rate. It is estimated that by the year 2002 China will have the largest economy in the world and will continue to be a major importer of American products. The World Bank projects that China will spend \$750 billion on infrastructure in the next decade. If the United States scales back its trade relations with China, American firms will not be in a position to participate in this rapidly expanding Chinese economy in the years ahead. Europe and Asia will enjoy unrestricted access to the rapidly growing Chinese market, putting the United States at a competitive disadvantage.

I recently traveled to China and witnessed firsthand the positive impact the information age is having on the Chinese people and the Chinese government. China is predicted to become the largest market for American exports of telecommunications equipment in the next decade. Not only are the economic implications behind this new openness important, but the social ramifications as well. China's increasing desire for high technology products and information will be mutually beneficial to both the United States and China economically, politically, and socially.

Human rights and democracy are not promoted or enhanced by shutting off the flow of technology and information. Open, fair, and competitive trade is the most effective means by which the United States can play a role in enhancing the economic and political well-being of the Chinese people.

MFN should not be an issue the Congress addresses on an annual basis. This trade status has been extended to virtually every nation around the world. In order to strengthen Sino-American trade relationships, the United States should treat China no better—but certainly no worse—than we treat our other trading partners.

Congress should end the practice of linking human rights conditions in China to the issue of MFN status for China. The United States maintains mutually beneficial economic relationships with many countries around the world with which we have political or cultural differences. These differences should be addressed in the diplomatic arena, not by taking actions likely to trigger a trade war between two great trading partners.

For all these reasons, it is imperative that the United States maintain MFN trade relations with China now and in the years to come. The revocation of China's MFN status

is not in the best interest of the United States. Mr. Chairman, let us do what is best for American and Chinese workers, democracy in China, and free trade. Let us extend MFN for China.

#### DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 11, 1996*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3755) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak in opposition to the Istook amendment.

Title X is the only Federal program that prevents unintended pregnancy and reduces the need for abortion. In my State alone, 300,000 women and teens rely on title X for their only reproductive health care.

The radical right is once again putting politics ahead of people by attempting to require young people to obtain their parents' consent for family planning and other health care services. This requirement will cause many teens to delay, or, worse yet, avoid seeking essential health care services—placing their health, future fertility, and even their lives at risk.

I agree that ideally, teens should be encouraged to talk to their parents about all health care decisions, including those of reproductive health. But, we don't live in an ideal world, and millions of teens don't live in ideal families. Study after study has shown that when parental consent is mandated by law, adolescents will delay or avoid seeking needed care.

How can anyone oppose such an essential program? Whose best interests are being served? Certainly not those of American teenagers, families, and women.

Once again, the new majority has put the radical right's agenda ahead of good government.

Consent to give teens the right to make good health decisions, and the right to basic health care services. Oppose the Istook amendment.

#### LET'S MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PORTABILITY BILL

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 12, 1996*

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, allow me to quote from an article in this past Tuesday's Washington Post: Senator Kennedy told his health care aide, "My political sense is that Clinton gets something—if the health reform bill is enacted—but Dole does, too." His aide replied, "If it fails \* \* \* it helps us more than